

New Fixed Gear Placement Application Arches National Park

Introduction

FIXED GEAR: *Any man-made article, either hardware or software (webbing, rope, cord, etc.), that is used to aid ascent or descent, or as protection, and is left on the route by a climbing or canyoneering party after the completion of the route.*

Canyoneering and rock climbing in Arches National Park is to be free climbing or clean aid climbing. Clean aid climbing involves the use of temporary equipment and anchors that can be placed and removed without altering the environment (e.g. slings, cams, nuts, chocks, and stoppers). The replacement of existing fixed anchors or fixed gear on an existing climb deemed unsafe does not require prior authorization. The park recommends that the climbing or canyoneering party notify park staff after the installation for inventory purposes. Any installation of new fixed gear requires park approval.

An individual requesting permission to establish new routes with fixed gear or place new fixed gear on established routes in Arches National Park must submit the attached special use application and addendum to the Superintendent, Arches National Park, and abide by all of the terms and conditions specified herein. The purpose of requiring climbers and canyoneers to submit a detailed application before placing new fixed gear is twofold. First, it will present a set of questions to the climber or canyoneer to critically analyze the proposed route and determine if it is truly needed. Is the route of high enough quality, uniqueness, and with a minimal impact on the area? Secondly, if the climber or canyoneer deems it still necessary to establish, the information in the addendum to the Special Use permit attached will allow park personnel to approve or disapprove the route in a timely and informed manner. Once an application is received, a field review will be conducted by qualified park staff, reviewed by park management and a determination will be made within 60 days.

The management of Arches National Park recognizes that, in some instances, the use of fixed gear may be appropriate in the interest of resource protection and public safety. However, it is the intent of management to discourage the further proliferation of bolts at Arches National Park as well as the associated impacts resulting from them. Requests for the installation of new bolted climbs such as sport climbs will not be approved. All applications will be very closely reviewed to assure the careful management of resources, values and visitor opportunities. The permission to place fixed gear at the specified sites is based on the finding that the effect of the activity will not result in significant impact to the cultural, natural or scenic resources and values within the National Park.

It should also be noted that the use of a motorized drill is prohibited within wilderness boundaries in Arches National Park. Motorized drills may be approved outside wilderness boundaries through this application process.

A record of the field evaluation, providing the basis for approval or denial for each request, would be on file in the Special Use and Concession Coordinator's office. A copy would be available at the applicant's request.

New Fixed Gear Guidelines

The following are guidelines for establishing new routes with fixed gear, the placement of fixed gear on established routes and required fixed gear for installation. All must be considered during this application process:

- It is of utmost importance that new fixed gear be of high quality and the installers be experienced and skilled in setting bolts to ensure not only the first ascent party's safety but ensure the safety of future ascensionists.
- It is always preferable to use the old bolt hole rather than adding a new scar. Only in a worst-case scenario should a new hole be added.
- Every effort should be made to remove unsafe gear.
- New fixed protection anchors are only authorized to replace existing anchors deemed unsafe, in the development of new climbing routes, and only in sections of the route that have no rock features adequate for the placement of removable anchors.
- Hardware for new and replacement anchors are to be modern climbing specific hardware of a length adequate for rock conditions at the installation site. ¼ inch bolts are highly discouraged. Homemade hardware is prohibited.
- Climbing specific hangers are also recommended.
- Chains are recommended to replace the use of nylon webbing when rap hangers cannot mitigate rope grooving and should be kept at a minimal length to avoid visual impacts.
- Fixed anchor placement for the purpose of authorized fixed rappel stations shall be kept to a minimum and shall not exceed three individual placements.
- Bolts, hangers and chains painted the color of the rock surface or primed brown would be required *before* installation.
- The use of webbing and accessory cord shall not be allowed in the construction of new authorized fixed rappel stations.
- The use of pitons is prohibited.
- New, bolt-intensive climbing routes (e.g., sport climbs, bolt ladders) are not appropriate in the park and would not be approved.

NPS Form 10-930
OMB No. 1024-0026
NEW 10/00

National Park Service
Southeast Utah Group
2282 S. W. Resource Blvd.
Moab, Utah 84532
(435) 719-2121



Application for Special Use Permit for Fixed Gear Installation

Please supply the information requested below. Attach additional sheets, if necessary, to provide required information. Allow AT LEAST 10 business days for processing (2 business days for First Amendment requests). A non-refundable processing fee should accompany this application unless the requested use is an exercise of a First Amendment right. You will be notified of the disposition of the application and the necessary steps to secure your final permit. Your permit may require the payment of cost recovery charges and proof of liability insurance naming the United States of America as also insured.

Applicant Name:	Organization Name:
Social Security #: NA	Tax ID # NA
Street/Address:	Street/Address:
City/State/Zip Code:	City/State/Zip Code:
Telephone #:	Telephone #:
Cell phone #:	Cell phone #:
Fax #:	Fax#:
E-mail:	E-mail:

Description of Proposed Activity (attach diagram, attach additional pages if necessary):

Please complete attached addendum application (page 5)

Requested Location: _____

Date(s): _____

Maximum Number of Participants _____ (Provide best estimate)

Maximum Number of Vehicles _____ (Attach parking plan)

Support Equipment (list all equipment; attach additional pages if necessary)

List support personnel (contractors, etc. including addresses and telephones attach additional pages if necessary)

Individual in charge of event on site (include address, telephone and cell phone numbers):

Is this an exercise of First Amendment Rights? ☐Y ☐N

Are you familiar with/ have you visited the requested area? ☐Y ☐N

Have you obtained a permit from the National Park Service in the past? ☐Y ☐N

(If yes, provide a list of permit dates and locations on a separate page.)

Do you plan to advertise or issue a press release before the event? ☐Y ☐N

Will you distribute printed material? ☐Y ☐N

Is there any reason to believe there will be attempts to disrupt, protest or
prevent your event?(If yes, please explain on a separate page.) ☐Y ☐N

Do you intend to solicit donations or offer items for sale?
(These activities may require an additional permit.) ☐Y ☐N

Addendum to Application for Special Use Permit
New Fixed Gear Placement

Permit # _____ (to be filled out by NPS)

The purpose of requiring climbers/canyoneers to submit a detailed application before establishing a new route with fixed gear or updating an existing route is twofold. First, it requires the climber/canyoneer to critically analyze the proposed route and determine if it truly is needed. Is the route of high enough quality, uniqueness, and with a minimal impact on the area? Secondly, if the climber/canyoneer deems it still necessary to establish, the information provided below will allow park personnel to approve or disapprove the route in a timely and informed manner.

Proposed start date: _____ Proposed completion date: _____

Required Documents

1. Completed application for a Special Use Permit for Fixed Gear Placement and attached addendum.
2. Photos of proposed route with locations of fixed gear added to picture.
3. Map (topo) of the area showing location of new route (or route to be updated) in relation to present route (photocopy from guide book with proposed route drawn in is sufficient).

New Route / Update Route Questionnaire (to be filled out by applicant):

Access

1. Is there an established trail to access this proposed route? ☐Y ☐N
2. Is there an unmaintained access trail to this proposed route? ☐Y ☐N
3. What will be the primary parking area for this route? _____

4. If there is no established parking, where will individuals park to access this route?

Location

1. Is it within recommended wilderness? ☐Y ☐N
2. Identify the climbing area where the route is located. _____

3. Identify specific formation within that climbing area. _____

4. GPS coordinate of route at the base of the climb (if known)?

5. Where is it in relation to the routes next to it? _____

6. Distance from neighboring routes? _____

7. Names of route on either side? _____

Specifics of Route

1. Lead climb or top rope? _____

2. How many fixed anchors will be placed (including top anchors)? _____

3. Location of bolts on route (detail on photo, if possible)? _____

4. Can route be accessed from the top? _____

5. Estimated rating of new route? _____

6. Will most people top rope or lead this (if established as a lead climb)? _____

7. Estimated number of climbers per year that will be able to climb this route? _____

8. Is this route a variation of a previous route? _____

9. What steps have been taken to ensure this route has not already been established/ updated?

10. Why does this route need to be established/ updated? _____

11. What is the name of the route you are establishing? _____

12. Where do you intend to publicize this new route? _____

The applicant by his or her signature certifies that all the information given is complete and correct, and that no false or misleading information or false statements have been given.

Signature _____ Date _____

Information provided will be used to determine whether a permit will be issued. Completed application must be accompanied by an application fee in the form of a cashiers check or money order in the amount of \$ NA made payable to National Park Service. Credit card payments may be accepted. Application and administrative charges are non-refundable. *This completed application should be mailed to the Special Park Use Coordinator at the Park address found on the first page of this application.*

Note that this is an application only, and does not serve as permission to conduct any use of the park. If your request is approved, a permit containing applicable terms and conditions will be sent to the person designated on the application. The permit must be signed by the responsible person and returned to the park prior to the event for final approval by the Park Superintendent.

NOTICES

Privacy Act Statement: The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) provides that you be furnished with the following information in connection with information required by this application. This information is being collected to allow the park manager to make a value judgment on whether or not to allow the requested use. Applicants are required to provide their social security or taxpayer identification number or activities subject to collection of fees by the National Park Service (31 U.S.C. 7701) Information from the application may be transferred to appropriate Federal, State, local agencies, when relevant to civil, criminal or regulatory investigations or prosecutions.

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement): This information is being collected subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501) to allow the park manager to make a value judgment on whether or not to allow the requested use. All applicable parts of the form must be completed. A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 30 minutes per response including the time it takes to read, gather and maintain data, review instructions and complete the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspects of this form to the National Park Service, Special Park Uses Program Manager, 1849 C Street NW (2460), Washington, D.C. 20240

Should this request be approved, the following conditions MAY apply.

CONDITIONS OF THIS PERMIT

1. The permittee is prohibited from giving false information; to do so will be considered a breach of conditions and be grounds for revocation: [36 CFR 2.32(a)(3)].
2. The permittee shall exercise this privilege subject to the supervision of the Superintendent or designee, and shall comply with all applicable Federal, State, county and municipal laws, ordinances, regulations, codes, and the terms and conditions of this permit. Failure to do so may result in the immediate suspension of the permitted activity or the termination of the permit.

3. If any provision of this permit shall be found to be invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this permit shall not be affected and the other provisions of this permit shall be valid and be enforced to the fullest extent permitted by law.
4. The permittee is responsible for making all necessary contacts and arrangements with other Federal, State, and local agencies to secure required inspections, permits, licenses, etc.
5. Failure to comply with any of the terms and conditions of this permit may result in the immediate suspension or revocation of the permit. All costs associated with clean up or damage repairs in conjunction with a terminated permit will be the responsibility of the permittee.
6. This permit may be revoked at the discretion of the Superintendent upon 24 hours notice, or without notice if damage to resources or facilities occurs or is threatened, notwithstanding any other term or condition of the permit to the contrary.
7. This agreement is made upon the express condition that the United States, its agents and employees shall be free from all liabilities and claims for damages and/or suits for or by reason of any injury, injuries, or death to any person or persons or property of any kind whatsoever, whether to the person or property of the (Permittee/Grantee), its agents or employees, or third parties, from any cause or causes whatsoever while in or upon said premises or any part thereof during the term of this agreement or occasioned by any occupancy or use of said premises or any activity carried on by the (Permittee) in connection herewith, and the (Permittee) hereby covenants and agrees to indemnify, defend, save and hold harmless the United States, its agents, and employees from all liabilities, charges, expenses and costs on account of or by reason of any such injuries, deaths, liabilities, claims, suits or losses however occurring or damages growing out of the same.
8. Permittee agrees to carry general liability insurance against claims occasioned by the action or omissions of the permittee, its agents and employees in carrying out the activities and operations authorized by this permit. The policy shall be in the amount of \$ NA and underwritten by a United States company naming the United States of America as additionally insured. The permittee agrees to provide the Superintendent with a Certificate of Insurance with the proper endorsements prior to the effective date of the permit.
9. Permittee agrees to deposit with the park a bond in the amount of \$ NA from an authorized bonding company or in the form of cash or cash equivalent, to guarantee that all financial obligations to the park will be met, including the restoration and rehabilitation of the permitted area.
10. Costs incurred by the park as a result of accepting and processing the application and managing and monitoring the permitted activity will be reimbursed by the permittee. Administrative costs and estimated costs for activities on site must be paid when the permit is approved. If any additional costs are incurred by the park, the permittee will be billed at the conclusion of the permit. Should the estimated costs paid exceed the actual costs incurred; the difference will be returned to the permittee.
11. The person named on the permit as in charge of the permitted activity on-site must have full authority to make any decisions about the activity and must remain on-site at all times. He/she shall be responsible for all individuals, groups, etc. involved with the permit.

12. As a condition of acceptance of this permit by the permittee and pursuant to 41 U.S. C. 22, "No Member of Congress shall be admitted to any share or part of any contract or agreement made, entered into, or accepted by or on behalf of the United States, or to any benefit to arise thereupon."
13. Nothing herein contained shall be construed as binding the Service to expend in any one fiscal year any sum in excess of appropriations made by Congress or administratively allocated for the purpose of this Agreement for the fiscal year, or to involve the Service in any contract or other obligation for the further expenditure of money in excess of such appropriations or allocations.
14. This permit may not be transferred or assigned without the prior written consent of the Superintendent.

ADDITIONAL PARK SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

15. Permittee shall abide by all applicable park regulations.
16. Permission applies only to those sites specifically listed here and described in the application.
17. The date and time that the work will be performed must be scheduled in advance with the Arches National Park LE Supervisor (435-719-2220).
18. Postponement or cancellation of this privilege must be reported to the Arches National Park Service LE Supervisor (435-719-2220).
19. Approximate locations, make and type, and numbers of fixed gear to be placed must be determined prior to initiating any drilling.
20. Bolts, hangers and chains painted the color of the rock surface or primed brown would be required *before* installation.
21. Software left in place would be required to match the rock surface in color.
22. The physical altering or removal of rock from its natural position such as chiseling, breaking rocks to reinforce crevices and pockets as anchors, glue reinforcement of existing holds, and gluing of new holds would be prohibited (36 CFR 2.1).
23. The intentional removal or "gardening" of lichen or plants from rock or at the base of climbs would be prohibited (36 CFR 2.1).
24. All old holes would be filled with epoxy and topped with sand to best camouflage the un-used hole.
25. Use of deadman anchors is prohibited. A deadman is a buried object (e.g., a large rock or log) that functions as an anchor for an attached rope. The action of digging a hole to bury an object for use as an anchor would be prohibited by 36 CFR Section 2.1.
26. Permission to install fixed gear may be revoked at any time should circumstances arise which indicate the need for reevaluation or rescheduling.

Additional conditions may be added depending on the specifics of the application.